

**SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**  
**SITUATION REPORT #07**  
**Water Supply Contingency Plan Implementation-2000**  
**Wednesday, January 31, 2001 – 1600 Hours**

*This report contains the latest information. Revisions are in bold. Please refer to previous situation reports for past information. Note: Next situation Report –February 14, 2001.*

**Situation:**

The South Florida Water Management District has declared Phase II water shortage restrictions for Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, Collier, Lee and Hendry Counties. Phase III water restrictions have been imposed for agricultural users in the Lake Okeechobee Basin and the Indian Prairie Basin, Phase II water restrictions for non-agricultural users in the Lake Okeechobee Basin and modified Phase II restrictions for Orange County.

**WEATHER CONDITIONS:**

**Short Term:**

**Little or no rain is expected over Lake Okeechobee through Wednesday, then minor/light rainfall is possible each day from Thursday into the weekend.**

**Long Term:**

**Continued increased chance of below average rainfall through March where 70-90% of historical average rainfall should be expected. April and May are expected to be near average, only because long range forecast skill over peninsular Florida for these months is poor, especially for May.**

**WATER CONDITIONS:**

**Kissimmee Chain of Lakes:**

**Upper Kissimmee did not receive any significant rain this week. The water level in Lake Kissimmee declined from 48.97 ft NGVD to 48.86 ft NGVD for the week. There was no outflow through S65 from Lake Kissimmee. The Upper Kissimmee Chain of Lakes (Myrtle, Alligator, Mary Jane, Gentry, East Tohopekaliga and Tohopekaliga) showed some decline in water level except for Lake Tohopekaliga. The average weekly decline was 0.034 ft.**

**The Lower Kissimmee area did not receive rain during this period. The water level in the C-40 canal decreased from 25.96 ft NGVD to 25.89 ft NGVD. The water level in the C-41 canal decreased from 25.91 ft NGVD to 25.78 ft NGVD. The water level in the C-41A canal fell from 28.77 ft NGVD to 28.60 ft NGVD. The water level in Lake Istokpoga measured at the S68 structure fell from 37.69 ft NGVD to 37.58 ft NGVD. Lake Istokpoga was below its regulatory schedule.**

**Lake Okeechobee Service Area**

**Lake Okeechobee did not received any rain. Water levels in the lake declined from 10.99 ft NGVD to 10.87 ft NGVD. Net outflow from the Lake was 3,155 ac-ft through all structures. Of the major structures, S354 released approximately 961 ac-ft; S77 released approximately 166 ac-ft; C-5A released approximately 490 ac-ft; S352 released approximately 390 ac-ft; and S351 released approximately 492 ac-ft of water.**

### **Water Conservation Areas (WCAs)**

The WCAs did not receive any rain. The water level in WCA-1 fell from 16.10 ft NGVD to 15.94 ft NGVD. The water level in WCA-2 fell from 11.53 ft NGVD to 11.06 ft NGVD. The water level in WCA-3 fell from 9.46 ft NGVD to 9.39 ft NGVD. Estimated average ground elevations for WCA-1, WCA-2, and WCA-3 are 14.0 ft, 10.5 ft and 7.5 ft NGVD respectively. Structure S5AS released approximately 641 ac-ft of water from WCA-1 to the north via the L-8 canal. WCAs are all below their regulatory schedule at this time.

### **Upper East Coast**

The water level in the C-23 canal decreased from 16.96 ft NGVD to 16.60 ft NGVD. The water level in the C-24 canal changed from 16.99 ft NGVD to 17.19 ft NGVD. The water level in the C-25 canal decreased from 15.56 ft NGVD to 14.94 ft NGVD.

### **Lower West Coast**

Discharge from Lake Okeechobee to the Caloosahatchee canal through structure S77 was approximately 166 ac-ft.

### **OPERATIONAL STATUS:**

The District's EOC remains at a level 2 (partial) activation. The Citizen Information Line is activated during normal business hours (0830 hours to 1630 hours).

### **TEAM REPORTS:**

#### **WATER OPERATIONS:**

- Revised Lake Okeechobee supply side management reference stage to 9.57 feet.

#### **Operation Support:**

- Six (6) submersible pumps delivered to S-351, S-352, and S-354 (2 per site). All bulkheads (7 each) were delivered. On-site assembly of the two (2) pump/bulkhead test units is scheduled to occur the week of 1/29/01.
- Coordinating with Field & Stream Magazine concerning boat water restrictions.
- Coordinating with Sun Sentinel to visit S5A, G-310 and possibly forward pumps at S-351 to develop historical perspective article.

### **WATER SHORTAGE IMPLEMENTATION**

#### **Variance/Temporary Pump**

- To date, received 276 requests for variances, 111 requests approved. The average turn around for processing a variance request is three days.
- Received and approved three (3) temporary pump authorizations.

#### **Compliance/Enforcement**

- Conducted field checks of agricultural pumps on the NNR and Miami Canals.
- To date, 6 workshops conducted with approximately 340 code enforcement officers trained.
- 700 tickets/warnings reported issued by local law enforcement

### **Modified Water Supply Delivery Plans**

- **Lower Indian Prairie basin operation plan being developed with the Tribe and other competing basin users. Tribe seeks one day deliveries for the week as do other users.**
- **Conducted weekly status update with Ft. Myers and Lee County Utilities and DEP.**
- **Develop Upper Indian Prairie Basin water release operational plan.**

### **Water Use Evaluation**

- **Forward letters and called selected coastal utilities to initiate weekly chloride monitoring.**
- **Five 298 districts were notified to begin daily pumpage monitoring in sub-basin G and one 298 district in sub-basin H due to large basin use.**

### **MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT**

- **Concluded investigation of sample location and analysis of chloride data at the OLGA water plant because of its effect on water supply releases from Lake Okeechobee.**
- **Developed information for January Water Shortage Conditions Report for Governing Board.**
- **Developing methodology for flow of Lake Okeechobee Service Area.**
- **Documenting ground water levels and water discharge in LEC and WCAs.**
- **Monitoring water quality of flow reversals to Lake Okeechobee.**

### **INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION**

- **Participated in drought teleconference with Florida Division of Emergency Management and all Water Management Districts on 1/24/01.**

### **Environmental Assessment**

- **Prepared GB resolution for cooperative agreement with the FFWCC to conduct the Lake Istokpoga drawdown project. This was approved by the GB on 1/24/01.**
- **Investigated funding options for the Lake Istokpoga project.**
- **Prepared a summary of environmental conditions for the Water Conservation Areas to assess potential for short term and long term impacts and times to recovery as these systems continue to dry.**
- **Determine water use requirements and schedule for the L-8 Pilot Project.**
- **Develop Memorandum of Understanding with Florida Freshwater Fish and Game Commission, including clarification of funding source and contract responsibility.**
- **Continuing to monitor potential of controlled burn in the Holeyland.**
- **Assessing the impacts of using some amount of groundwater to keep the STAs hydrated on the STA vegetation communities and phosphorus removal performance.**

### **EMERGENCY MANAGMENT**

- **Citizen Information phone line received approximately 8,565 calls.**
- **Averaging 680 visitors per day to District's WEB site.**

## **Finance/Procurement**

- Issued Purchase Orders awarding the media buying RFQ to GRT Ad Services (east coast media coverage) and to Media Right (west coast and Orlando coverage).
- Awarded RFQ to provide manatee protection screens during forward pumping operations at Lake Okeechobee structures S-351, S-352, & S-354 to Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute.
- Issued Purchase Orders to vendors for 1) “splash” flier printing job in Spanish and English, 2) audio production services for advertisements and public service announcements in Spanish and Creole, and 3) post-production video spots in Spanish and Creole.

## **LEGAL**

- Drafted Lykes Reservoir operation agreement
- Drafted Emergency Order for temporary recession of existing Lake Istokpoga Water Shortage Orders.
- Drafted Emergency Authorization of Activities and Works to detain water from lake Istokpoga.
- Drafted Seminole Tribe Work Plan provisions regarding water shortage.
- Drafted Operational Plan for G-207 and G208 structures.
- Assist enforcement team with legal processes for enforcement.
- Assist in coordinate Sparrow issues.
- Assist in legal aspects of the Governing Board’s adopted Resolution for the temporary funding of the environmental enhancement project for Lake Istokpoga.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

- Issued press release on the Lake Istokpoga drawdown and the modified phase III water restrictions in Glades and Highlands counties.
- Assist in facilitating ten media contacts at the joint meeting of the District’s Governing Board and the Miami-Dade County Commission.
- Began media buy of television and radio stations.
- In coordination with service center directors, coordinating outreach to public district-wide.
- Approximately 60 media calls and contacts.
- Completed production of radio and television Public Service Announcements and distributed district-wide.
- Completed production of commercial and residential brochures and comparison matrix on Phases I-IV restrictions.
- Completed production of residential brochures on Phase I and II restrictions in Spanish.
- Hosted booth at the South Florida Fair to educate public regarding water conservation issues.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Joe Taylor, Deputy Executive Director  
Water Resources Operations

\_\_\_\_\_  
Olivia McLean, Director of  
Emergency Management

**Distribution:**

SFWMD Governing Board members  
Executive Group  
Governors Office  
John Adams, SFWMD  
Melissa Meeker, Department of Environmental Protection  
John Adams, US Army Corps of Engineers – Jacksonville  
John Hashtak, US Army Corps of Engineers – Jacksonville  
Jim Vearil, US Army Corps of Engineers – Jacksonville  
Karen Estock, US Army Corps of Engineers – Clewiston  
Patrick Odom, State EOC – ESF5, Intel  
Al Canepa, St. Johns River Water Management District  
B.J. Jarvis, Southwest Water Management District  
Nick Wooten, Northwest Water Management District  
Tom Marti, Suwannee River Water Management District